Serving birds in hotels

3772. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incidents of serving rare birds in the local dhabas and restaurants of Delhi and other parts of the country has come to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) and (b) Even though serving of rare birds in the local dhabas and restaurants of Delhi and other parts of the country is illegal, the occurrence of such incidents cannot be ruled out. Recently once such incident has been reported from Faridabad district of Haryana wherein cooked meat of birds suspected to be partridge was seized. A case in this regard has been filed in the Special Environment Court in Faridabad.

(c) The steps taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents include :

(i) Increased vigil is maintained at places where such incidents are likely to occur. Raids are conducted at suspected locations.

(ii) Hunting of rare birds is banned under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(iii) Crucial habitats of various species of birds have been notified as national parks and sanctuaries. Some of the important wetlands have also been notified as Ramsar Sites and World Natural Heritage Sites.

(iv) Regular patrolling to control poaching of birds is done in forest habitats.

(v) Financial assistance is provided to State Governments for effective protection and management of national parks and sanctuaries.

(vi) Creation of awareness about the importance of conservation of birds.

Action plan to check pollution in Delhi

3773. DR. ABRAR AHMED :

PROF. R.B.S. VARMA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any specific action plan to check the day-by-day increasing pollution in Delhi ;

(b) if so, the comprehensive details thereof; and

(c) the funds spent by Government to check the pollution in Delhi during the last four years alongwith the year-wise and item-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) and (b) The Government has prepared a specific Action Plan to control pollution in Delhi in a time bound programme entailing a coordinated inter departmental strategy. This Plan includes strategies to control air, vehicular, water, industrial and noise pollution.

(c) To improve the quality of environment in Delhi, Government has released Rs. 166.21 crores under the Yamuna Action Plan and Rs. 23.00 crores to install Common Effluent Treatment Plants.

Failure of Bt. Cotton in Andhra Pradesh

3774. SHRI N. R. DASARI :

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :

SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the opinion being expressed by the environmental activist group Green peace as well as the Andhra Pradesh Minister for agriculture that the Bt. Cotton was a failure;

(b) if so, the details;

(c) whether any official study has been conducted into the success of Bt. Cotton where it has been experimented; and